

REMARKS

Applicants are making minor amendments to Claims 60, 62-65, 67-71, 73-76 and 78 to correct informalities therein.

Applicants will address the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Specification

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the specification for informalities therein. In response, Applicants have amended the 4th paragraph on page 16 and the 4th paragraph on page 32. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments add no new matter and overcome the Examiner's objections. Accordingly, it is requested that the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 60, 62-65, 67, 69, 71 and 73-76

The Examiner also rejects Claims 60, 62-65, 67, 69, 71 and 73-76 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki (US 5,990,542) in view of Yukasaka (US 6,359,606). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 60, 65, 71, 75 and 76 as explained below.

In particular, with regard to independent Claims 60 and 71, Applicants have amended these claims to recite that the light emitting layer is in contact with the passivation film. This feature is shown, for example, on page 15, ln. 18 to page 16, ln. 9 of the specification and in FIG. 1 of the present application.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither of the cited references disclose or suggest the light emitting layer being in contact with the passivation film. Hence, neither of the cited references disclose nor suggest the claimed method of independent Claims 60 and 71 of the present application.

With regarding to independent Claims 65 and 75, Applicants have amended these claims to recite that the light emitting layer, the second electrode and the second passivation film are formed in succession without exposure to an atmosphere (Claim 65) or that the light emitting layer, the second electrode and the third insulating film are formed in succession without exposure to an atmosphere (Claim 75). This feature is shown, for example, on page 33, Ins. 7-9 and page 35, Ins. 5-7 of the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that this feature, and therefore the method of these claims, is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

With regard to independent Claim 76, Applicants have amended this claim to recite that the electroluminescence layer is in contact with the second insulating film. As explained above, this feature is clearly supported by the present application, and neither of the cited references disclose or suggest this feature. Therefore, for at least the above-stated reasons, Claim 76 is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, independent Claims 60, 65, 71, 75 and 76, and those claims dependent thereon, are patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 68 and 70

The Examiner also rejects Claims 68 and 70 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki-Yudsaka and further in view of Kikukawa et al. (US 6,329,036). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these rejected claims is a dependent claim. Accordingly, these claims are allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 77

The Examiner also rejects Claim 77 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki-Yudsaka and further in view of Utsugi et al. (US 5,747,930). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

While this rejection is traversed, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have canceled Claim 77, rendering this rejection moot. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 78

The Examiner also rejects Claim 78 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki-Yudsaka and further in view of Tang et al. (US 5,684,365). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

This claim is a dependent claim. Accordingly, this claim is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

Applicants are adding new dependent Claims 79-81. These claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these claims be entered and allowed. If any fee should be due for these claims,

please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Conclusion

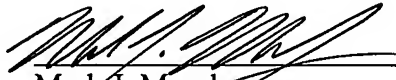
It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 13, 2005


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